

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims replaces the claims presently in the application:

1. (currently amended) A dosing dispenser for essentially spherical items contained in a container, the dosing dispenser (1) consisting of a soft elastic plastic material and comprising:

an operating section (4),

a tubular section (11) having a passage channel whose inner cross-section is larger than the items,

and an exit opening (6) which in ~~the~~ a relaxed state of the soft elastic dosing dispenser (1) has an elongated shape whose width is smaller and whose length is larger than the items, the dosing dispenser being deformable by the application of pressure such that the exit opening gets larger than the items, and wherein

the tubular section (11) having the passage channel is attached at a distance from the exit opening (6) to an inner wall of the operating section (4) of the dosing dispenser (1),

two retaining cams (12) are on the end of the tubular section (11) and oriented towards the exit opening (6), and

the tubular section (11) is cut open in an axial direction of the tubular section, so that the tubular section comprises at least two circumferential sections that are movable relative to each other.

2. (currently amended) The dosing dispenser according to claim 1, wherein the two retaining cams (12) ~~having~~ on the end of the tubular section (11) are generally opposed to each other and have a clearance therebetween in the relaxed state of the dosing dispenser (1) that is larger than the items, and including

an accommodating chamber (13) ~~remains for one item~~ between the exit opening and the retaining cams (12) for receiving and accommodating one item.

3. (currently amended) The dosing dispenser according to claim 2, wherein the length of the exit opening (6) extends along a longitudinal direction and the retaining cams (12) are arranged at places located in along the longitudinal direction of the exit opening (6).

4. (previously presented) The dosing dispenser according to claim 1, wherein the dosing dispenser (1) further comprises an annular plug section (2) for tightly resting on ~~the~~ an inner wall of an opening to the container, and

a circular lateral projection (3) for resting on an upper edge of the container opening, wherein the operating section (4) projects beyond the container opening.

5. (currently amended) The dosing dispenser according to claim 4, wherein two axially extending grooves (9) are formed on ~~the~~ an outside of a circumferential wall of the operating section (4) in a plane bisecting the exit opening (6) in a width direction.

6. (previously presented) The dosing dispenser according to claim 4 including two grooves (10) formed on an outside of a face wall (5) of the operating section (4) along a line that bisects the exit opening (6) in width direction.

7. (previously presented) The dosing dispenser according to claim 1, wherein the tubular section (11) is attached at a distance from the exit opening (6) to an inner wall (15) of the operating section (4), and

the two retaining cams (12) are formed on the end of the tubular section (11) towards the exit opening (6).

8. (previously presented) The dosing dispenser according to claim 7, wherein a free annular space (16) is between the inner wall (15) of the operating section (4) and the an outer wall of the tubular section (11).

9. (previously presented) The dosing dispenser according to claim 7, wherein the tubular section (11) includes at least one slot extending in the axial direction so that it comprises at least two circumferential sections that are movable relative to each other.

10. (previously presented) The dosing dispenser according to claim 1, wherein the dosing dispenser (1) is made in one piece in an injection molding process.

11. (previously presented) The dosing dispenser according to claim 1 in combination with the container.

12. (previously presented) The dosing dispenser and container according to claim 11, including a cap having an inwardly projecting pin which projects into the exit opening (6) of the dosing dispenser (1) in a state where the cap is mounted on a neck of the container.